

Landscape and Manage Your Property the LakeSmart Way!

- *Beautify and increase the value of your lot*
- *Protect fishing and other recreational uses*
- *Keep taxes low and the local economy strong*
- *Protect the quality of your lake for current and future generations*



For More Information On LakeSmart

- How the program works,
- Landscapers trained in LakeSmart,
- Training classes for homeowners,
- Award winners, or
- Resources,

Visit the LakeSmart web site at
www.MaineDEP.com

or

Contact the Maine Department
of Environmental Protection's
Lakes Education Coordinator at
(800)452-1942

LAKE SMART:
A WAY YOU
CAN HELP
PROTECT
YOUR LAKE



Clean water starts with you!



Why LakeSmart?

What you do on the land *does* affect the lake! The LakeSmart Program recognizes property owners in lake watersheds who manage and landscape their property to protect lake water quality.



Declining water quality can affect the type and number of fish species that inhabit the lake and can harm other recreational uses as well as the local economy. Studies have shown that as water quality declines the value of shorefront property also decreases. This results in higher taxes for the other property owners in the watershed.

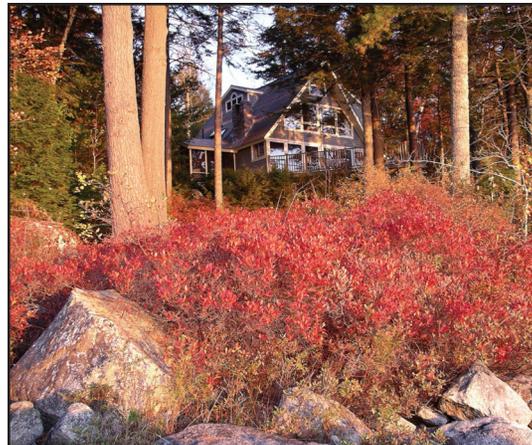
Clearly it is in everyone's best interest to **take action to protect lake water quality**. Landscaping and managing your property in an environmentally friendly manner through LakeSmart is a way to do *your part* in protecting your lake while beautifying and increasing the value of your lot.

What is LakeSmart?

The LakeSmart program sponsors **training courses** throughout the state each summer. Visit our web site to locate a training near you www.MaineDEP.com. These courses cover the various practices that make a property LakeSmart such as

- Preventing erosion,
- Planting vegetation to soak up runoff,
- Pumping septic systems,
- Stabilizing ditches and driveways, and
- Minimizing impervious surfaces (pavement, patios, and compacted lawns).

Homeowners may **schedule a visit** to be evaluated for a LakeSmart Award by contacting DEP or the local Soil and Water Conservation District. (Please keep in mind that these visits are for education not for enforcement.)

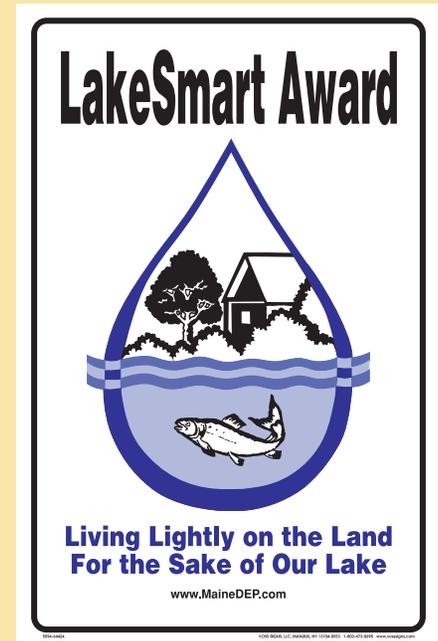


First LakeSmart Award winners - Anne & Don Hayes

LakeSmart Award!

The evaluation involves a site visit to review the landscape and maintenance practices in four categories:

- Road, Driveway & Parking Areas,
- Structures & Septic System,
- Lawn, Recreation Area & Footpaths,
- And Shorefront & Beach Area.



If the owner's property exceeds the criteria in all four categories he/she will receive

- A personalized award plaque,
- Publicity in local newspaper or newsletter, and
- Signs for their LakeSmart property (optional).